

ascent. A much softer mountain is Capucin (4800 feet) than the Puy de Sancy, for all its dome shaped Pic is green to the summit, with grassy slopes and bilberries and all sorts of low growing plants. Here I took *Parnassius apollo*, and the only one I saw during my week's sojourn; *Erebia stygne* and *E. epiphron*, again the only ones of their genus, were not uncommon, *Coenonympha pamphilus* was also taken and a few Geometers as yet unnamed; *Brenthis euphrosyne* was in fine condition and also of considerable size, a few *Issoria lathonia* occurred and one or two *Melitæa parthenie*, whilst *A. flava* (*thaumas*) was rather rare.

On the other side of the valley much the same sort of captures were made, only there, in a stony locality, *Pararge maera* and its form *adrasta* were not uncommon, perhaps the *adrasta* is scarcely typical, but it belongs to that race rather than to the parent stock. A single *Aphantopus hyperantus* was taken on this side of the valley. The Hesperids were, however, very scarce, only three *Augiades sylvanus* fell to my net and but one *Hesperia fritillum* race *cirsii* and one *H. malvae*. Of Noctuæ I took but two, *Euclidia glyphica* on the wing and a beautiful black Noctuid, as yet unnamed, at rest close by the grand cascade. Perhaps I ought also to record a single specimen of *Crambus digitellus* on the Puy de Sancy.

The extraordinary paucity of species is worthy of note, there was almost a complete absence of the *Plebeinæ* and *Polyommatinæ*, for I only took two specimens, both of which attracted my attention by their extraordinary appearance, they were evidently blues, but what? They had no colour at all and when I boxed them they were too worn to decipher. now that they are set I find they are absolutely scaleless in all the internervular areas, there being only a vestige of the lower layer of brown scales along the veins of the wings. The genitalia tell me they are *Polyommatus eumedon*, but it is quite impossible to determine them by their pattern. As I look at them now I ask myself is it possible for a Plebeine to hibernate. I suppose it is not possible, but the abnormal condition of these two specimens in mid-June compelled the thought.

From here we went on to Provence where we spent the remainder of our holiday, our next resting place (apart from single nights) being la Sainte Baume, but this must be deferred for a later paper.

A new Palæarctic species of the Lyceninae.

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Lt.-Colonel H. D. Peile, who has returned home recently after spending some time in Mesopotamia with the army of occupation, has brought a most interesting collection of Rhopalocera from that region and among them is an extraordinary and beautiful new Lycenid belonging to the *dama* section of the genus *Polyommatus*, which I have much pleasure in dedicating to its fortunate captor.

Polyommatus peilei, sp.n.—♂ Both wings yellowish tawny colour (the exact colour is very difficult to describe, at first sight it looks almost orange), the prevailing tone is deep yellowish. Primaries with an abundant supply of greyish androconial hairs and small scales, which give the wing an unusual aspect. The secondaries are almost free of these scales except in the basal area. Fringes grey, the basal